



EXPERIENCE
READING
& BERKS COUNTY

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Fields, Flavors & Folkways

A Pennsylvania German Heritage Itinerary

An immersive journey into Pennsylvania German Heritage, Food, and Farming, this itinerary celebrates the traditions of the PA Dutch countryside—exploring historic farms, hearty farm-to-table cuisine, traditional baking and foodways, and the enduring agricultural practices that shape the region's culture and landscapes.



Highlights

Immersive Pennsylvania German culture & history

Countryside scenic tours with Barn Star stops

Local culinary experiences: pretzels, meats, chips, and more

Organic farming and sustainable agriculture education

Shopping and unique local markets at Renninger's

Optional interactive experiences at Seltzer's or Kreider Farms

2-DAY GROUP TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 | *Heritage & Rural Life*

Morning | **Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center**

Guided tour exploring the history, language, and folk arts of the Pennsylvania Germans.

Late Morning | **Barn Star Tour**

Scenic countryside drive highlighting hex signs, barn stars, and traditional farm architecture.

Lunch | **Deutsch Eck Restaurant**

Traditional Pennsylvania German dining experience.

Shopping | **Renninger's Antique & Farmer's Market**

Enjoy shopping for antiques, crafts, and locally produced items.

Afternoon | **Rodale Institute**

Guided tour focused on organic farming, sustainability, and innovative agricultural practices.

Dinner | A variety of options close to the hotel of your choice.

Evening | Hotel check-in and overnight stay.

Day 2 | *Food Heritage, Farming & Local Products*

Morning | **Berks County Heritage Center**

Explore exhibits on local history, industry, and community heritage.

Lunch | **Nicholas Stoltzfus Homestead**

Lunch and learn about a historic Pennsylvania German farmstead, and learn about early rural life.

Afternoon | Pick any of the following options:

- **Reading Soda Works** | Take a factory tour and shop in our local artisan store.
- **Tom Sturgis Pretzels** | Factory tour and tastings.
- **Dietrich's Meats** | Market visit and tastings.
- **Dieffenbach's Potato Chips** | Factory tour and samples.

Optional Afternoon Stop | Pick one of the following options:

- **Seltzer's Smokehouse** | Guided sausage-making tour.
- **Kreider Farms** | Visit our dairy farm, bunker silos, various barns, and of course, our cows. You will also enjoy a drive through our maternity barn and a tour of our milking carousel and the milking process.

Late Afternoon | Depart for home.

3-DAY GROUP TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 | *Cultural Foundations*

Morning

- Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center
- Barn Star Tour

Lunch & Shopping

- Deitsch Eck Restaurant
- Renninger's Antique & Farmer's Market
Enjoy local foods and browse antiques, crafts, and seasonal produce.

Dinner | A variety of options close to the hotel of your choice.

Evening | Hotel check-in and overnight stay.

Day 2 | *Countryside & Artisan Foods*

Morning

- Berks County Heritage Center
- Nicholas Stoltzfus Homestead

Lunch | Wyomissing Restaurant & Bakery (Buffet)

Afternoon | Pick any of the following options:

- **Reading Soda Works** | Take a factory tour and shop in our local artisan store.
- **Tom Sturgis Pretzels** | Factory tour and tastings.
- **Dieffenbach's Potato Chips** | Shopping in the store.

Dinner | Dinner on your own or an optional group dinner.

Evening | Hotel overnight stay.

Day 3 | *Sustainable Agriculture & Food Heritage*

Morning

- **Rodale Institute** | Guided farm tour highlighting organic and sustainable practices.
- **Dietrich's Meats** | Market visit and tastings.

Late Morning / Early Afternoon Optional Tours

- **Seltzer's Smokehouse** | Traditional sausage-making tour.
- **Kreider Farms** | Take a tour of the farm.

Lunch | Lunch on your own or farewell group meal.

Afternoon | Depart for home.



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